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special notice. The Postscripts to Appendix C, on "The Centon Epistolario," and to Appendix D, on "The Buscapié," also contain new and important facts. Everywhere, indeed, we have found something to reward us for the time spent in looking for the new matter with which this edition has been so largely enriched,—the fruits, in part, of the author's third residence in Europe, and in part of the more congenial hours spent in his own library. After enumerating the sources from which he has derived the new materials used in it, Mr. Ticknor closes the "Preface to the Third Edition" with two or three impressive remarks which we cannot refrain from citing:—

"Its preparation," he writes, "has been a pleasant task, scattered lightly over the years that have elapsed since the first edition of this work was published, and that have been passed, like the rest of my life, almost entirely among my own books. That I shall ever recur to this task again, for the purpose of further changes or additions, is not at all probable. My accumulated years forbid any such anticipation; and therefore, with whatever regret I may part from what has entered into the happiness of so considerable a portion of my life, I feel that I now part from it for the last time. *Extremum hoc munus habeto.*"

In going through Mr. Ticknor's volumes for the purposes of this notice, we have been more strongly impressed than ever before by the magnitude of his undertaking, and by the consummate skill with which every part of it has been executed. Few persons not Spaniards by birth and education would have ventured on a task beset by so many difficulties; and certainly no one could have produced a work more orderly in arrangement, more accurate in statement, or sounder and more judicious in criticism.

We cannot close this notice without the expression of a hope that Mr. Ticknor may yet be induced to publish some of the miscellaneous papers which, it is understood, are quietly laid away in his library drawers. Among them we remember a lecture on "The Tartuffe of Molière," read in this city several years ago, which impressed us then as superior to any other discourse of its kind within our knowledge; and we believe that there are other papers illustrative of French and English literature which ought not to be allowed to perish.

7.—*Biographical Sketches.* By NASSAU W. SENIOR. London: Longman, Green, Longman, Roberts, and Green. 1863. Small 8vo. pp. xv. and 517.

UNDER this modest title Mr. Senior has brought together in a convenient form ten essays published by him at different times within a

period of more than twenty years, for the most part on topics connected with the law or lawyers. Of the papers thus collected for republication seven were first printed in the *Edinburgh Review*, and the residue in other periodical journals. They are often marked by the strong grasp of the subject, the sturdy good sense, and the perspicuous style for which we are accustomed to look in Mr. Senior's writings; but they are too slight in structure to be regarded as anything more than the recreations of an able man. The best of them are the papers on the elder Berryer, Tronson du Coudray, Lord Campbell's *Lives of the Chief Justices*, and Lord King. In nearly all of these, however, as well as in the other essays, the citations from the books reviewed are so numerous, that one sees but little of the reviewer; and in general, with the exception of a few introductory remarks and an occasional bit of criticism, Mr. Senior contents himself with an abstract of his author's opinions and a statement of facts. As a writer he is deficient in brilliancy and graphic power, and, however high we may be disposed to rank him as a political economist, he cannot be classed with the earlier *Edinburgh Reviewers*, if these papers are to be taken as the measure of his ability as an essayist.

8. — *The Life of Henry St. John, Viscount Bolingbroke, Secretary of State in the Reign of Queen Anne.* By THOMAS MACKNIGHT, Author of "The History of the Life and Times of Edmund Burke," etc., etc. London: Chapman and Hall. 1863. 8vo. pp. xv. and 728.

THIS memoir will scarcely add to the reputation which Mr. Mac-knight acquired by his *Life of Burke*. It is not a work of much research; the arrangement of the materials is faulty; the style is often careless and inelegant; and throughout the volume there is a strong partisan spirit constantly manifest. But, even with these qualifications, not much can be said against our author's estimate of Bolingbroke's public and private character. The gross licentiousness of his private life has never been so forcibly exhibited in any previous memoir which has fallen under our notice; the want of profound and accurate scholarship so apparent in his literary and philosophical writings is abundantly shown; and few intelligent readers, we think, can close Mr. Mac-knight's narrative without a conviction that Bolingbroke was utterly destitute of political principles, and that he was indifferent whether the throne of Great Britain was occupied by a prince of the House of Hanover or by a prince of the House of Stuart, except so far as he thought his own personal interests might be advanced by his support of